



National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture

# News Release

Maryland & Delaware Field Offices • 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway • Annapolis, MD 21401 • [www.nass.usda.gov/md](http://www.nass.usda.gov/md)

June 09, 2006

## Dry Conditions Lower Wheat Yields

**Maryland:** According to USDA's Agricultural Statistics Service, the winter wheat crop in Maryland is expected to yield an average of 55 bushels per acre based on June 1 conditions. This yield estimate is down 5 bushels from last month's forecast primarily because continued dry conditions caused producers to lower their yield expectations. Production in Maryland is forecast at 7.15 million bushels, down from 9.24 millions bushels harvested last year.

**Delaware:** Winter wheat yields in Delaware are estimated at 46 bushels per acre, based on June 1 conditions. The primary concern for this year's small grain crop is lack of rain. This has been one of the driest winter/springs on record in the mid-Atlantic region, with total precipitation as of June 4 ranging from 3" to 8" below normal statewide. However, the dry conditions and low humidity mean virtually no disease has been observed.

**United States:** Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.26 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the May 1 forecast and 16 percent below 2005. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 40.5 bushels per acre, down 1.9 bushels from last month and 3.9 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 31.2 million acres, unchanged from May 1.

### Winter Wheat

	Harvested (1,000 Acres)		Avg. Yield (Bu)		Production (1,000 Bu)	
	2005	2006 <sup>1</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>1</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>1</sup>
Maryland	140	130	66.0	55.0	9,240	7,150
Delaware	51	46	70.0	46.0	3,570	2,116
United States	33,794	31,177	44.4	40.5	1,499,129	1,263,766

<sup>1</sup> Forecast